

In response to this Office Action, consideration of the following remarks is earnestly solicited.

R E M A R K S

It is respectfully requested that this application be reconsidered in view of the following remarks.

Election of Species Requirement

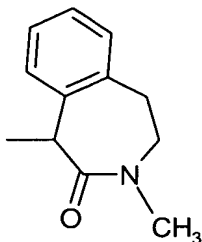
The Office Action of October 9, 2001 stated that Claims 91-117 were generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising compounds of formula IA and IB and therefore an election of species was required to provide for specific values of the ring formed by W, together with $-C(H)_pC(=X)$, or Q.

In response to this requirement, Applicants elect, without traverse, the following ring system:

W, together with $-C(H)_pC(=X)$, forms a heterocycle optionally fused to form a bi- or multi-fused ring system of 1 to 2 aryl rings, and X is oxo.

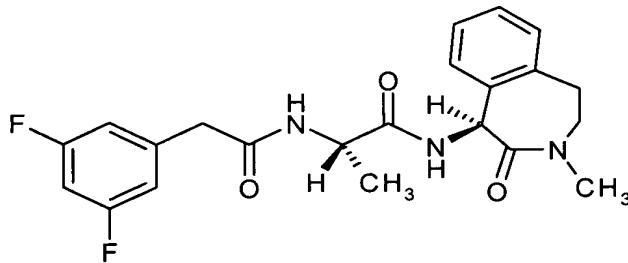
Applicants submit that the above election is sufficient to respond to the election of species requirement set forth in the Office Action insofar as this election provides specific values for the ring formed by W, together with $-C(H)_pC(=X)$. Moreover, Applicants believe that Claims 91-99, 103-105, 108 and 113-117 read on this elected ring.

If a more specific ring system is required to be responsive to this election of species requirement, then Applicants elect, without traverse, the following ring system included in Table 6-1 starting on page 112 of the application:



Applicants believe that Claims 91-98 and 113-117 read on this elected ring.

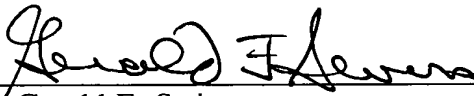
If a specific compound is required to be responsive to this election of species requirement, then Applicants elect, without traverse, the following single disclosed species: 1-(N'-(3,5-difluorophenylacetyl)-L-alaninyl)amino-3-methyl-1,3,4,5-tetrahydro-2H-3-benzazepin-2-one which is represented by the formula:



This compound is disclosed on page 112, in Table 6-1 and is exemplified in Example 6-1 on page 284.

Applicants believe that Claims 91-98 and 113-117 read on this elected compound.
Early examination on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,
BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: 
Gerald F. Swiss
Registration No. 30,113
Attorney for Applicants
Redwood City, CA Office
(650) 622-2300

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404

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